

UNO
ARCHIVES

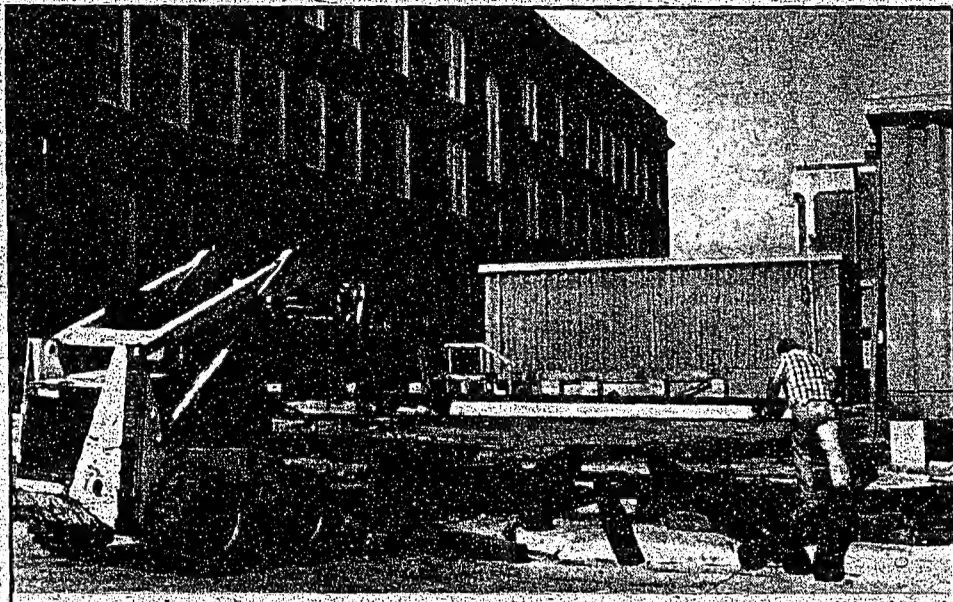
THE Gateway

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Vol. 87, No. 21

University of Nebraska at Omaha

Friday, November 6, 1987

*Move 'em out*

Workers began towing away the old annexes on the east end of campus. The first one was taken at 3 a.m. Wednesday morning. The area is scheduled to be turned into a parking lot.

—Akitoshi Kizaki

New criteria to tighten eligibility

Aid to students quickens

By TIM McMAHAN
News Editor

Students who go through early registration could find a great chunk of the money they expected to receive through financial aid automatically credited to their account, said J. Phillip Shreves, director of the Financial Aid office.

For the spring semester, Shreves said, "we have more applications cleaned up and paperwork in. We have a lot of money ready to go."

Checks could be mailed to financial aid recipients the first or second week of January if they go through early registration, Shreves said.

"If they go through early registration, students are assured of having tuition paid and the remainder check mailed prior to classes beginning in January," Shreves said.

Students who wait until regular registration will have to wait at least three weeks after classes begin to receive any check, Shreves said.

He said with the use of computers in the Financial Aid office, the office has become more efficient.

"For the first time, last semester as a part of our new automated system, we were able to automatically disperse most of the different kinds of assistance which goes through our office," Shreves said.

"That's a major change," he said. "In the past, we had to prepare checks for all the kinds of aid we administered, fill out multi-part paperwork, send it to the state house in Lincoln and the checks were dispensed in person."

Efficiency increase

The new system saves the university the cost of typing time and paperwork. "There has been a significant decrease in effort and increase in efficiency," Shreves said.

Among the types of aid that can be dispensed automatically are Pell Grants, State Student Incentive Grants, Supplemental Educational Opportunity Grants, university tuition waiver/grants and some scholarships including University of Nebraska Foundation scholarships.

Shreves said Perkin's Student Loans, Guaranteed Student Loans, college work study and outside scholarships can't be passed automatically to student accounts due to some student requirements.

The University of Nebraska-Lincoln is not automated to the same degree in its financial aid office, Shreves said. This has caused them to get behind in some financial aid processing, he said.

Shreves said students have been successful in gathering more than 1,000 names on a pe-

tition that called for the administration to look into problems UN-L is having in its financial aid office.

"The students have a legitimate complaint. Students have a right to courtesy, information and the processing of forms in a timely manner. They need the money to go to school. When the office gets severely backlogged, the students suffer," Shreves said.

He said UNO had similar problems two or three years ago when he first joined the office staff.

"We had a poor reputation. Students would complain to the chancellor and vice chancellor on a weekly basis. A lot of the problems were due to the lack of staff at the time," Shreves said.

100 percent turnover

Since he's been with the university, Shreves said he's seen a 100 percent turnover in staff. "We burn people out. This job consists of high stress, lots of work and pressure."

"Because of the nature of financial aid eligibility, we're the bearer of bad news to so many students. They aren't happy with the news. They think they're eligible, but they're not," Shreves said.

He said the rules defining who gets aid come from Congress and are extremely difficult to understand.

"It took me a full year of financial aid work to understand the programs and the determinants. It's unreasonable to expect the students to understand the rules," he said.

"Congress has gone overboard with the restrictions. This year, we have to constantly give out bad news to students. They sometimes swear at you and raise their voices. It's very draining. We have hard jobs. People are constantly complaining," Shreves said.

He said Congress has changed criteria for financial aid recipients next year by tightening them even more.

"As long as we have a national debt and a republican in (presidential) office, we'll keep seeing this. Congress raises money by cutting back in certain areas. Financial aid is not immune," Shreves said.

"I don't blame students for getting mad. I hope they understand ours is a top quality office. I know in the future students will continue to see more and more improvements," Shreves said.

He said the office is pushing students to apply for financial aid for next fall/spring semesters early. Jan. 1, 1988, is the first day Financial Aid Forms will be available.

"By applying early, Financial Aid has plenty of time to process applications. The student will be considered for the maximum amount of aid," Shreves said.

'Hopes it doesn't happen again'

UNO plans no legal action

By TIM McMAHAN
News Editor

The university does not plan to pursue legal action on any individual involved in mismanagement of funds in the Student Center, said Lou Cartier, director of University Relations.

Cartier said the university is bound by the Buckley Amendment which precludes it from divulging information concerning an employee in a personnel matter.

"There will be no direct linkage to an employee. A person's reputation is at stake. We have no interest in compounding a difficulty," Cartier said.

The Gateway reported Tuesday that Joel Zarr, former manager of Student Activities for UNO, allegedly committed the university to a contract for services which, in part, was for his own personal gain, according to a special report the Gateway acquired.

The report alleged Zarr used the university's name and credit line to profit on a private contract between him and the University of South Dakota and the University of Western Illinois that also put the university in potential liability.

Cartier would not link the allegations to Zarr and his resignation. However, Cartier said "the thrust of (Tuesday's Gateway) story was accurate."

"University officials have been looking at the Student Activities area and are interested in the correction of what may have been a flaw in the system," Cartier said.

He said the university acted responsibly towards the incident.

"There were some activities starting in the spring that raised concerns about the way some monies were handled. The university wants to make absolutely certain that it doesn't happen again," Cartier said.

"Things weren't handled the way they should have been. We want to make sure (the university) is not vulnerable again. I know the university is very concerned that they run a tight ship," Cartier said.

The alleged incidents took place in the spring. When asked why no action was taken sooner, Cartier said, "The university has to be deliberate, purposeful and sometimes slow. If there were any intervening steps taken, because of the university's relationship to the employees, it was not able to say."

"We began to look at this in the spring. You can't assume the university did nothing between then and now. It has taken steps to correct the problem and resolve the situation the best it could, as efficiently as it could," Cartier said.

Cartier said Zarr resigned after, but not as a result of, an audit of his office that showed evidence of poor management. He said no funds had been lost.

"It began at a point where the university staff people saw some accounting they questioned or had reason to look into. A routine process raised some questions," Cartier said.

He said the audit was not a document for which there are "copies of the thing floating around." He said the audit was an on-going process.

Garrison proposes
black studies requirementsBy JEFF CLARK
Staff Reporter

All students at UNO may be required to take a course in black studies if a recommendation by Black Studies Chairperson George Garrison is instituted into the new core curriculum.

A recent task force committee report on changes in core curriculum proposed that each student must complete six credit hours in the field of cultural diversity.

Garrison forwarded a memo to the head of the task force, Professor John Kasher, after consultation with his staff. The memo requests that at least three of these credit hours be fulfilled within the black studies department. If approved, all UNO students, regardless of their major, must take one black studies course to graduate.

Garrison said it concerns him that most students graduate from UNO without completing a course in black studies.

"I support the efforts of general education on this campus and UNO, being a liberal arts college, should provide a broad breadth of knowledge for its students."

"It's inconceivable that an individual may not be required to take a black studies course. It's a glaring weakness," Garrison said.

By appealing to student reason, Garrison answers critics of such a plan by turning the tables on any objection. He said by putting those people "in the shoes of black students," they would see that many courses are slanted towards the majority culture. Blacks spend years taking courses where their culture is underemphasized, he said.

In his request to the task force, Garrison said "a requirement of black studies within the general education curriculum would do more than ensure that our students are exposed to an often neglected but indispensable segment of American culture."

Three courses, Introduction to Black Studies, Survey of Black Literature and Black American Culture, would be recommended to fulfill the proposed three hours.

Garrison cites eight other universities in the report that have made black studies a requirement for their students. These universities include Ohio State, Indiana and Temple. He said these institutions of higher learning have demonstrated a commitment to black studies.

"By simply establishing this area of study as mandatory for all students at UNO, it would immediately present this discipline in a favorable light and combat the negative biases against black studies on this and other campuses across the country," Garrison said.

"UNO would be in the vanguard of a movement that is growing and gaining impetus," he said.

Garrison said he was unsure of the support he had on campus; however, "the legitimacy of our request stands independent of whatever support there is."

Students should become very interested in the matter since these types of things contribute to a broad education, "making them better citizens and human beings," he said.

The Academic Affairs office would be next to see the idea if it is acted upon favorably by the task force committee.

Senator series to begin Tuesday

Beginning with the Nov. 10 issue, the Gateway will begin a series of interviews with local state senators.

The senators will give their views on the

effects of student lobbying efforts and legislation concerning UNO.

They will also address their positions concerning cutbacks to the university's budget.

Comment

Columnist's love affair with 'Hawk' starts to fall apart

Our relationship, which began about five years ago, was not love at first sight. He wasn't bad looking, but I didn't think he was my type. It wasn't until I took him home that he really began to grow on me.

He used to be so dependable — always there when I needed him. He would do anything I asked. But that was long ago.

Now, that beautiful, promising relationship has turned into a bitter nightmare. It's been one problem after another. It's as if he takes delight in tormenting me. The emotional, as well as the financial strain, are almost too much to handle.

Lately, his looks have really gone to hell.

I can't stand the sight, smell or sound of him. All of his little habits annoy me so that I could scream. Yet he continues to taunt me.

This relationship must end soon or I fear I'll do something drastic. I've had these evil, violent thoughts about pushing him off a cliff. (If only Omaha had mountains.) But there's always the river. I could drown him! Yes, yes, that's what I'll do.

He is, of course, my car.

He's a '78 Buick Skyhawk, who I used to affectionately call "the Hawk." Now I have other, unprintable names for him.

I can remember how thrilled I was when I first got him. I showered him with tokens of my affection. But the ingrate doesn't seem to remember the genuine imitation leather steering wheel grip, the color-coordinated floor mats from K mart or the flocked plastic skunk deodorizer.

He got the best of everything — regular tuneups and oil

changes, the finest imported unleaded, turtle wax...

Then he got demanding. Oh, it started with little things. A valve. A switch. A hose. A belt.

He moved on to bigger demands. A clutch. A battery. New tires. Shocks. A muffler. An alternator, rebuilt carburetor and, recently, a transmission.

He began to do other things to annoy me. Once, after picking up a quick lunch at McDonald's drive-through, the window refused to roll up. Of course, it began to rain — heavily. The

Sue Perry Gateway Columnist

window had slid down into the door where it hid until I took it to the shop.

The radio went haywire. It began to play only on one station — a country one I particularly hate. Later, it stopped working at all. I was left with silence.

Well, not exactly silence. The sound would be more accurately described as a garbage truck dragging a bouquet of tin cans. It was embarrassing.

People on the street would turn and stare at the source of the gawdawful racket. I'd drive by a bus stop and people would grin and point. I could tell they were thinking, "Damn, am I glad I'm riding the bus. I could have to drive around in that

heap."

The noise problem has since been solved. It was a minor problem — a stabilizer bar that was hanging on by one bolt.

So now the Hawk has found other ways to get public attention. For example, as I was leaving work one day, I discovered a large green puddle under the Hawk. I felt exactly the same sense of humiliation one feels when one's dog has piddled on the neighbor's pantleg. (This, after graduating from obedience school.)

Another time — during the busiest part of the Christmas shopping rush — the Hawk refused to go in reverse. I had to shove him out of the parking stall. A tiny piece of metal had broken off the shift, which had to be welded back on.

Yet another day, the knob on the top of the stick shift popped off in my hand. This wouldn't be a problem, except it's not just an ordinary knob. No, sir. Have to go to the dealers, pay \$1 million for a new one. The old one still sits loosely on top of the stick.

Then there's the last time I foolishly decided to drive the Hawk out of town. I went to Colorado for the weekend and returned with a flat tire and a defunct alternator. So I'm never taking him anywhere again.

It rained the other day. I turned on the windshield wipers. Then I tried to turn them off. They refused. They continued to slap back-and-forth, back-and-forth across the window. They'd only stop when I turned the engine off.

Can anybody direct me to a deep, secluded spot on the river? The Hawk will not live to see his 10th birthday.



The Gateway

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The Gateway is published by students of the University of Nebraska at Omaha through the Student Publications Committee on Tuesdays and Fridays during the fall and spring semesters, and on Fridays during the summer.

Opinions expressed are not necessarily those of the UNO students, faculty, or staff; or those of the NU central administration and Board of Regents.

Letters to the editor must be signed, but those with noms de plume may be accepted. All letters should include appropriate identification, address, and telephone number. (Address and telephone number will not be published.) Letters critical of individuals must be signed by using the first and last name, or initials and last name. Preference is given to typed letters. All correspondence is subject to editing and available space.

Letters exceeding two (2) typewritten pages will be considered editorial commentary, and are subject to the above criteria.

Inquiries or complaints should be directed to the editor; advertising inquiries should be directed to the advertising manager. Copies of the Student Publications Committee inquiry policy are available at The Gateway office.

The Gateway is funded as follows: 33% student fees; allocated by SG-UNO; 67% advertising revenue.

Typesetting and make-up by Priesman Graphics of Omaha. Address: The Gateway, Annex 26, UNO, Omaha, NE, 68182. Telephone: (402) 554-2470.

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Viewfinder

Opinions Solicited by John Rood

Q:

Do you think UN-L football players are treated differently than other students?



Rick Harris, junior
Biology

"I think so. I think the teachers let them off easier. The coaches do a lot for them, too."



Dean Tran, freshman
Fashion Merchandising

"They're helped out by the coaches and their teammates so they can win on the field."



Toby Higgs, sophomore
Exercise Science

"Yes, I think the players talk to each other to try and find out which teachers are more football oriented."



Pam Nichols, senior
Marketing

"Definitely, like the incidents with the police. He (Broderick Thomas) still gets to play against Oklahoma because his trial is a few days after the game."



Talking politics at CCLR's reception are, from left, Sen. Glenn Goodrich, Sen. Carol McBride-Pirsch, Terri Valgora-Wright and Cheryl Carter.

Senators, students meet

By JOHN ROOD
Senior Reporter

The Council for Community and Legislative Relations (CCLR) sponsored a reception in the Student Center with state senators, Omaha business leaders and university administrators Tuesday.

CCLR is a student lobbying group established in 1984 to promote UNO's interests in the Legislature and the community.

About 50 people attended the reception which was sponsored to help improve UNO's image in those two areas, Paula Effle, director of CCLR, said.

Effle said students used the reception as an opportunity to meet with state senators and share concerns about funding for UNO. State Sens. Glenn Goodrich and Carol McBride-Pirsch also attended the event, Effle said.

In the past, UNO's connections with the Legislature have not been ideal, she said.

"We really need to create a better working relationship with the Legislature," Effle said.

The two senators provided suggestions to improve UNO's lobbying efforts. "Specifically, they want the students down in Lincoln," she said.

The senators feel students can be more effective than lobbyists at communicating UNO's needs because students directly depend on the university for a meaningful education, Effle said.

"They said UNO students know UNO needs and that they depend on us to communicate that to them," she said.

Another of CCLR's goals was to promote UNO within the Omaha business community, she said.

Effle said she was pleased with the turnout from the business community. Visitors included Sears Store Manager Gary Bozak and Don Mahan of Bell Federal Credit Union, she said.

Maintaining a positive relationship between the business community and UNO is important because the two groups share a mutual dependence on each other, Effle said. UNO graduates depend on jobs from area businesses, and businesses depend on UNO for quality graduates.

"I think they have a huge stake in UNO and keeping our grads in Nebraska," she said.

Effle said the business people she spoke with were very positive about the UNO graduates they employ. "I really think they respect UNO graduates," she said.

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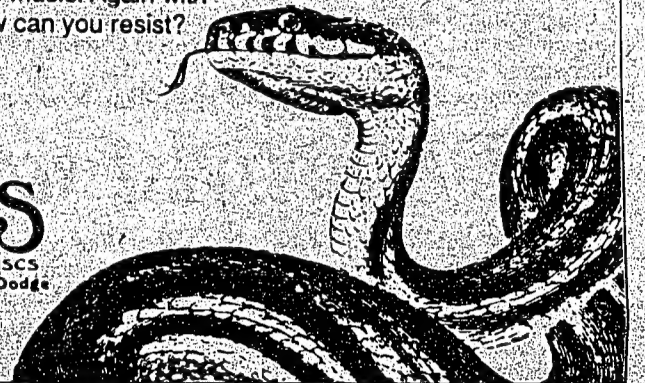
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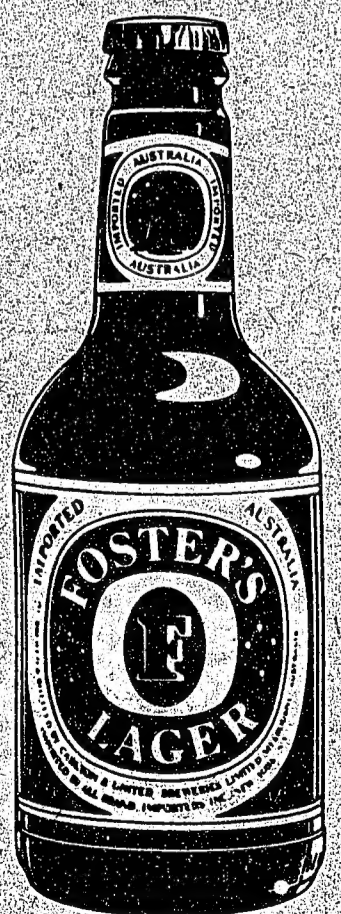
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UNO increasing AIDS programs

By ELIZABETH TAPE
Staff Reporter

Editor's note: Today is the beginning of AIDS Awareness Week in Nebraska.

Aware of the concern among students, UNO is planning several different projects to increase student awareness of AIDS and to offer advice about its prevention.

Within the next year, at least one additional seminar is planned, and a new tape has been added to the collection of Dial-a-Tapes. It is completely confidential and should be available in approximately one week. It addresses such questions as "What is AIDS?" and "How can I prevent myself from getting it?"

In addition, Health Services continues to offer information about AIDS in the form of pamphlets, although the office can obtain educational videotapes from the American Red Cross on various topics about AIDS which faculty may borrow for classes or students can view in Health Services.

Health Services has also begun selling condoms at cost. Ruth Hanon, Health Services' nurse, said that "it (selling condoms) is simply one way that we're trying to educate people." Health Services started selling condoms in the summer.

With a condom purchase, students also receive pamphlets about AIDS and safe sex from the American College Health Association. Health Services maintains a file on AIDS, available to anyone of the UNO community for personal or research purposes.

During the spring, Don Carlson, graduate assistant to the director of orientation, urged a rekindling of interest in establishing a formal program to provide education towards the prevention of AIDS.

Carlson said he is concerned about the stigma associated with the disease and the possibility that such a stigma may inhibit students from obtaining the information and counseling they need.

UNO maintains an AIDS Education Committee through Student Government. The committee is made up of Carlson, two other students and Hanon.

The committee sponsored a workshop on AIDS in the spring

and plans another program within the next year. During the Academic Planning Seminar (for new students and their parents), held July 20 through 22, Health Services sponsored a booth which offered facts about the disease in the form of videotapes and brochures.

In addition, several other forums on AIDS have been held. During the summer, the social work department led a workshop on AIDS for UNO and the Omaha community. Special Programs, under the guidance of Coordinator Barbara Hewins-Maroney, sponsored an AIDS seminar on Oct. 13, "AIDS — Its Effect on the Community."

Professor Sunny Andrews, director of the School of Social Work, and his graduate assistant, Dot Danigola, have also presented the results of this research project on AIDS awareness in the community.

This data was presented in New Orleans on Oct. 21 at the 115th annual meeting of the American Public Health Association. The results were clear, Hewins-Maroney said: "We need to do a better job of education... education does increase awareness."

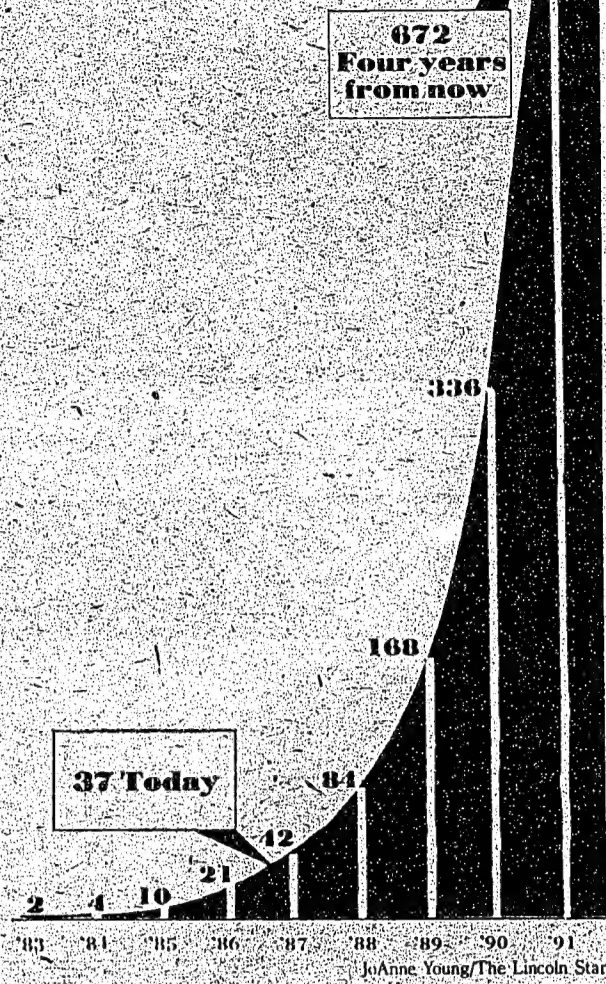
In dealing with people at UNO who have contracted AIDS, UNO follows the policies of the American College Health Association. It is considered a communicable disease, and the school maintains a basic tenet of nondiscrimination. Hanon said the school follows the Centers For Disease Control's guidelines for handling body fluids of its patients — gloves are used for everyone. They also maintain strict confidentiality.

For those interested, the AIDS Education Committee seeks additional participation, particularly faculty, but anyone is welcome. Contact Student Government in the Student Center, Room 134, or call Bryan Howell, Student Government chief administrative officer, at 554-2620 for more information.

The general feeling at UNO is the importance of communicating information about AIDS and a commitment to providing that education.

For further information, contact Carlson in Orientation, 554-2677; Hanon in Health Services, 554-2374; or Hewins-Maroney at 554-2248. Outside of UNO, people can contact the AIDS Hotline at 342-4233 within Omaha. The UNO Dial-A-Tape service is 554-3333, tape number 67.

The Future of AIDS in Nebraska



AIDS activist says forget 'homophobia,' face reality

By DAN SWIADEK
Feature Editor

The Viral Syndrome Clinic, like other AIDS programs and support groups in Omaha, remains unknown to a majority of city residents.

The two-year-old clinic exists to serve AIDS patients on an out-patient basis.

It was members of the Viral Syndrome Clinic who first went into the gay community when AIDS became a problem in Omaha to pass out information and to take blood samples for research.

This dedication has impressed Omahan Don Flowers, active nationally and in Nebraska in educating both gay and straight populations about the disease.

"The Med Center is doing a wonderful job of researching," he said.

He even defends the Med Center's choice to call the clinic a viral syndrome clinic.

"A hospital has to be a little laid back in its handling of AIDS because other people may not want to come near the place," he said.

Flowers and other members of Omaha's gay community raised more than \$12,000 on Labor Day weekend for the further funding of research at the Med Center.

Nationally, Flowers is on the board of directors of the Human Rights Campaign headquartered in Washington, D.C., which lobbies for funding of AIDS research and raises money for Congressional candidates who support this research. It is the 17th largest political action committee in the United States.

Flowers' goals in Omaha have been to educate the heterosexual as well as the homosexual population about AIDS.

Programs such as the Nebraska AIDS Project (NAP) have helped, he said. NAP offers counseling and operates a hotline seven days a week from 6 to 11 p.m. Also, the American Red Cross Coalition provides educational tapes and sponsors a buddy program for patients. Brother William Walker of the Chancellor's Office of the Omaha Archdiocese also provides counseling for AIDS patients and their families.

Despite these programs, Randolph said the

average Omahan's knowledge of AIDS is limited.

Randolph does think that what has been done in Omaha for AIDS has been worthwhile.

He and members of the Med Center's Viral Syndrome Clinic have been holding Sunday seminars and workshops in an effort to blitz the gay community with information, the topic: Safe sex.

"You don't have to stop having sex," he said, "you just have to be safer at it. It can still be as exotic and erotic as you want it to be."

The barrage of media attention that AIDS has received in the past five years has been something of a double-edged sword, Flowers said. On one hand, the public has become educated about AIDS. But prejudice and misunderstanding about gays may have also increased — which is what might have caused 21 percent of those in a 1986 poll by The Des Moines Register to believe that AIDS is a result of God's wrath against gays.

"That's just plain ignorance," Flowers said. "God's wrath to what? It's no longer the gay

plague. It started as the gay plague, then became Rock Hudson's disease, now it's everyone's disease. Ignorance is probably as deadly as the disease itself."

People's views of homosexuality as a result of media attention haven't been all that bad, he said. Some may have even become more enlightened.

"People never have had a reason to understand homosexuality or a reason to bring it up as a household word. Now that it's an issue, they're totally aware of it," he said.

Randolph said he feels his co-workers have gained a sense of respect for him as a result of his speaking engagements, traveling and volunteer work for AIDS.

In his speeches around the Omaha area, Randolph has stressed one theme.

"Forget the homophobia. Forget the fact that AIDS does have an effect on a group of people throughout the United States who are not necessarily liked or accepted. Forget the prejudice and come back to reality," he said.

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Got a question? Ask the info lady

By SUE PERRY
Staff Reporter

Look under the sign in the Eppley Administration Building that says "Information" and you'll find Wilma Steele, the "Answer Lady."

If you dial 554-2800, the number for information at UNO, you'll talk to her. If you have any questions about campus activities or personnel, you're talking to the right person.

Steele has worked for the university for 13 years. Her first year was in the Reprographics Department, and the last 12 have been in Information.

How many phone calls does Steele field in one day?

"I have no idea. Some days are heavier than others," she said as she paused to answer a call. "That'd be 2358," Steele informed the caller.

It must be a staggering number of calls. If she fielded just two calls per minute, that would add up to almost one thousand a day. That's enough to drive almost anyone crazy, but the "Answer Lady" takes it in stride.

She obviously enjoys her work.

"The best part of this job is the contact with people," said Steele, who has two children and two grandchildren. Her son, who attended UNO, was "very pleased" about Steele's job.

The phone rang again. "Oh, that'd be personnel. Uh-huh, you're welcome."

A student walked up to the information window to ask directions. "It's annex 22. See — right here," she pointed to a map.

Although she knows the answer to almost any question, it's difficult to interview Wilma Steele. She's too busy answering questions.

One question almost stumped her, though: What's the oddest question anyone has ever asked her?

Steele thought for a moment.

"Well, at the beginning of the fall semester each year, I always have freshman who come up and ask, 'What time does school start?'" she said with a laugh.

Steele was considering retiring in December, but changed her mind. "I'm not ready to give up yet," she said.

What would she do if she didn't work at UNO? "Probably social work, volunteer work. I don't have the time right now, though," she said, picking up the phone once more.



Steele

What's Next

Friday 6th

- "First Friday" will be held today at the W.H. Thompson Alumni House, 4 p.m. to 6 p.m.
- "Letter to Brezhnev," SPO movies, shown today and Saturday at 7 and 9:30 p.m.; Sunday at 4:30 and 7 p.m. in Eppley Auditorium. General admission is \$1.50, UNO faculty, students and staff \$1.

Saturday 7th

- The Die Meistersingers choral group presents its first concert of the season today at 8 p.m. in the Performing Arts Center.

Sunday 8th

- "The Magnificent Ambersons," Joslyn Film Series, presented today at 2 and 4 p.m. at Joslyn Art Museum. General admission is \$3, \$2.50 for Joslyn members and students.

Monday 9th

- A general business meeting of the College Republicans will be held today at 1:30 p.m. on the third floor of the Student Center.

Wednesday 11th

- Tom Allen of the First National Bank will speak today on the post-October stock market at a Financial Management Association meeting at 11 a.m. in CBA's Conference Room (306). All students are welcome.

Thursday 12th

- John Nordick of Northwestern Bell will speak today at an Association for Systems Management meeting at 7 p.m. in the Statroom of the Student Center. All students are welcome.
- A one-day College of Continuing Studies workshop designed for management professionals, "Writing Effective Letters, Memos and Reports," will be held today at the Peter Kiewit Conference Center from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. Call 554-8309 for information.
- Professor Samuel Walker of the criminal justice department will speak on "The Library Bill of Rights" today at 7:30 p.m. in the Library, Room 205.

Omaha native Ron Hansen

Genial writer meanders to UNO

Thanks to the University of Iowa Writer's Workshop, there has been a steady stream of excellent, contemporary poetry and fiction in the literary marketplace. Thanks to the UNO Writer's Workshop, that stream has occasionally meandered onto campus.

The Reading Series in Contemporary Literature, put together each year by Workshop Professor Richard Duggin,

Judith Bieker State of the Arts

has brought to UNO such famed names as Robert Penn Warren, John Cheever and John Irving, all of whom have taught at the Iowa workshop. The series has also given us up-and-coming stars such as Ron Hansen, an author who read two of his short stories last Monday night to a small but appreciative audience at UNO.

Hansen, who currently is teaching at the University of Arizona, is a graduate of the Iowa Writer's Workshop. A native Omahan, Hansen is "a hometown boy who made good," said Duggin, also an Iowa alumnus, in his introduction.

If you've met Ron Hansen, you don't mind the native-son cliché. He's a charmer. Genial, cordial, sporting an easy and genuine smile, Hansen could probably run for public office if it weren't for the elbow patches on his tweed sports coat. (I've read "Dress for Success" — I can pick out writers by their L.L. Bean loafers.)

Likewise, Hansen's writing is charming. The first of the two stories he read, "Can I Just Sit Here for Awhile?" captures a pivotal moment in the life of a salesman who, in his mid-30s, toys with the idea of leaving his secure, established career for the more prestigious position of managing a distributorship.

I liked this story, but I liked even more the second one read: "Nebraska."

Hansen's short story "Nebraska" is more on the order of the historical fiction he has become known for. (His second novel, "The Assassination of Jesse James by the Coward Robert Ford," published in 1983, was runner-up for the William Faulkner Award).

"Nebraska" is more of a fictional essay than a story, and the language is more poetic than narrative. Written for the 60th anniversary issue of *Prairie Schooner*, Hansen creates a mural in words as expansive and disarmingly beautiful as the Nebraska prairie.

"The town is Americus, Covenant, Denmark, Grange, Hooray, Jerusalem, Sweetwater —" the story begins, "one of the lesser-known moons of the Platte, conceived in sickness and misery by European pioneers who took the path of least resistance and put down roots in an emptiness like the one they kept secret in their youth."

With keen and stunning elegance, Hansen paints this broad landscape into a quiet, private corner of the reader's soul. He speaks gentle and soothing words without sagging romanticism.

"Houses are turned away from the land and toward whatever is not always, sitting across from each other like dressed-up children at a party in daylight, their parents looking on with hopes and fond expectations."

Characters are drawn and sharply detailed with minimal strokes. There is Billy Awalt, 18, "a lump of chew like an extra thumb under his lower lip," one of the little Schumacher girls "sitting by the stoop window, a spoon in her mouth, a bowl of Cheerios in her lap," the widow Dworak, a Nordstrom boy, Mr. Victor Johnson — the list goes on.

I have Hansen's "Nebraska" in the December 1986 issue of *Harper's Magazine*. And ever since the reading, I've been walking around in the close of Hansen's story with Mrs. Antoinette Hansen, "... looking up at stars the Paynee Indians looked at, hearing the low harmonica of big rigs on the highway, in the town she knows like the palm of her hand, in the country she knows by heart."

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Sports

Mav seniors get last shot at Bison

By TERRY O'CONNOR
Sports Editor

Bleacher Backtalk

Get serious

Oh sure, Mr. Moeller, give the Big Red another pat on the back.

They just started to play a representative schedule this season, and now you want them to cream UNO on a yearly basis. The carnage would be disgusting.

Get real Mr. Moeller, UNO may play 11 men in a football game the same way Nebraska does, but the "Big Red horde" has enough depth to drown the Mavs.

Any extra revenue generated from this farcical contest for UNO would be eaten up by the increased medical expenses incurred from the annual beating.

Larry Kirschbaum,
UNO student

How about those Hawkeyes Mr. Lindwall? Consider this an upset, "but we know better than that don't we?" Ha, ha, ha, eat those words. Not to rub salt in a wound, but who won the World Series? It wasn't "St. Louis in seven." I can't wait to see you pick Oklahoma over the Big Red, unless all the Huskers are in jail. Then, of course, you'll take Nebraska.

Ron Wulff,
UNO staff member

Address your letters to Bleacher Backtalk, c/o Terry O'Connor, The Gateway, Omaha, Neb., 68182-0197, or drop them off at the Gateway office, Annex 26. Letters must be signed, but none of plumes may be accepted provided The Gateway can confirm the author's identity.

Is this the Gateway or what?

Defending Division II national champion North Dakota State invades Caniglia Field tomorrow afternoon at 1:30, and for 16 UNO seniors it will be the last chance to defeat the Bison in their college football careers.

"They've won more national championships than any team in Division I," UNO Coach Sandy Buda said. "Even Oklahoma hasn't won three national championships in the last four years."

North Dakota State, 5-3 overall and 5-2 in the North Central Conference, will be gunning for its fifth straight win over the Mavericks. This is the first year since 1980 that NDSU has lost two games in league play. UNO is 5-4 and 3-4.

The Bison have lost to No. 1 Northern Michigan, NCC co-leader Mankato State and former No. 1 South Dakota University this season.

"They've lost to three very good teams," Buda said. "They are a huge football team, and they run the same offense they've run for years. They are a very predictable team, but can you stop what they do?"

North Dakota State Coach Rocky Hager, in his first season leading the Bison, has big-play men in quarterback Brian Owen and wide receiver Len Kretschman. Owen has scored five TDs out of the veer offense and thrown eight touchdown passes, six to Kretschman.

The "Thundering Herd" has a massive front line averaging 281 pounds per man.

North Central Conference Standings

Team	W	L	Overall
South Dakota	5	1	7
Mankato State	5	1	5
North Dakota St.	5	2	5
North Dakota	4	3	5
St. Cloud State	4	3	4
UNO	3	4	5
Morningside	3	4	4
South Dakota St.	3	4	4
Augustana	1	6	2
Northern Colorado	1	6	2

Both teams are coming off losses. The Mavs were stifled 21-7 by St. Cloud State, while South Dakota rallied to pin a 28-12 loss on NDSU.

"I hope we're both mad," Buda said. "But you can't predict how a team is going to react to a loss. I don't even try anymore. This is the first time in five years North Dakota State won't be going to the national playoffs. You just don't know how they're going to respond."

Buda said the best way to beat the Bison is to control the ball and pointed to UNO's 18-10 win over NDSU in 1983.

"The last time we beat North Dakota State, we controlled the ball for 12 minutes in the final quarter. You have to keep the ball away from them," Buda said.

The Mavs will be without offensive lineman

Dave Ashman (concussion) and Bobbie Gordon, out for the rest of the season with a broken thumb. Halfback Chris Burns left the team after a routine academic check revealed unacceptable attendance levels.

"Now that midterms aren't sent out anymore, we give a sheet of paper for our players to have signed by their instructors," Buda said. "The instructors give their current grade and the number of absences. When I called him (Burns) in to talk about having too many absences, he just said 'OK' and left."

The list of UNO seniors: OFFENSE — Rick Majerus, Tim Krof, Brad Beckman, Tim Williamson, Jim Paprocki, Ron Miester, Tim Messman. DEFENSE — Scott Johnson, Greg Eversoll, Mike Schultz, Rob Shaw, Tom Hoffman, Shawn Sich, Steve Belton, Ross Els.

Brown leads regional bid

By TERRY O'CONNOR
Sports Editor

By the nature of the sport, a cross country team has a long way to go during every meet.

The UNO cross country team, after opening the season with a last-place finish in the Nebraska-Lincoln Invitational, may have had a longer road to travel than most.

But the Lady Mavs have shown marked improvement throughout the season, and they harbor increased expectations for the North Central Conference regional meet in Brookings, S.D., tomorrow.

UNO, led by two-time national qualifier Sheila Brown, is a longshot to win the meet. So the Lady Mavs hope to qualify as many individuals as possible for the nationals in Evansville, Ind., Nov. 21.

"We don't think it's possible to win the meet," Brown said. "We just want to finish in third place."

The top two teams in the NCC meet will go to Evansville, as well as the top three individuals not on the top two teams.

Brown, in her second year of cross country, has never qualified for nationals in that sport. But she reached nationals in 1984 as a member of the track team's 1,600-relay unit, and she qualified for nationals in 1985-86 in the 400-meter hurdles.

While Brown has led UNO in all six of its meets this season, the Lady Mavs have at least two other contenders for nationals.

Dina McCoy has run second to Brown in three of five meets, and Susanne Hickey has been a UNO runner-up three times and finished third twice.

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- Deadline: 1 p.m. Friday for the Tuesday issue, 1 p.m. Monday for the Friday issue.

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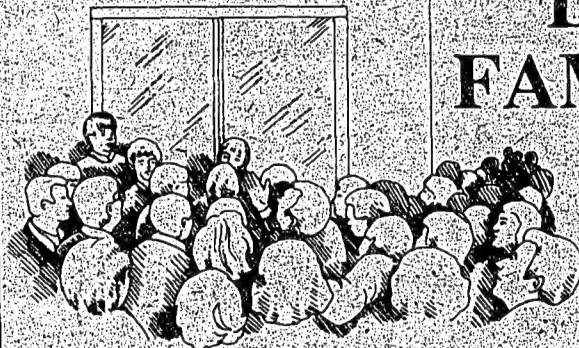
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College Picks *Open your eyes*

By ERIC LINDWALL
Sports Columnist

Last week Lindwall hit on 80 percent of his predictions. His overall average for the season stands at 81 percent.

Getting tired of football yet?

If you're the type of sports fan who's constantly thirsting for a change of pace, then November is your month.

The National Drug Association, er... the National Basketball Association begins its regular season tonight.

On a cleaner level, UNO men's and women's hoops begin Nov. 20 with a doubleheader at the UNO Fieldhouse.

Nov. 15 marks the opening of wrestling season for UNO Coach Mike Denny's grapplers. The Mavs boast the nation's top-ranked team and appear to be solid in every weight class.

And on Nov. 21 the nation's finest Thoroughbreds come together for horse racing's richest event, The Breeder's Cup, to be held in Hollywood Park, Calif. The event will be televised nationally.

So if your growing weary of football, quit yer moaning and open your eyes. There's a lot going on out there.

This week's picks:

North Dakota State at UNO — UNO suffered a disappointing setback losing 21-7 to St. Cloud State Halloween night.

The 5-3 Mavs will look to get back on the winning track Saturday in what will be the final home game for UNO this season.

Let's all get out to the game and show our team that they have our appreciation and support. **UNO 24-14.**

Iowa State at NEBRASKA — With an impending Big Eight title and possible national championship on the line, the players' off-field behavior continues to be a source of concern for the Nebraska coaching staff.

Last weekend, starting linebacker LeRoy Etienne became the fifth Husker player to be involved with the Lincoln Police Department this season when he was arrested for allegedly break-

ing the apartment window of a former girlfriend.

The incident seemed innocent enough in that Etienne needed to get his keys so he could get into his own apartment. Police said his ex-girlfriend would not file charges.

The Huskers should have little difficulty beating Iowa State, but they had better get their ship together if they expect to beat Oklahoma. **NEBRASKA 63-6**

ALABAMA at LSU — The 6-2 Crimson Tide face undefeated LSU this week followed by games with Notre Dame and Auburn. Despite a tough schedule, Alabama is still in the running for a major bowl bid.

Odds makers have made LSU a seven-point favorite, no doubt largely due to the big home-field advantage in Baton Rouge, La.

Despite an unimpressive three-point victory over Mississippi State last week, the Tide should be fired up for this contest and prevail; once again proving the odds makers wrong. **ALABAMA 24-21.**

Boston College at NOTRE DAME — Armchair quarterbacks have mistakenly overlooked the Irish when speculating on this year's potential national champion.

Notre Dame, without question, plays the most difficult schedule in the country. Season-ending games against Alabama, Penn State and Miami will give Notre Dame every opportunity to lay claim to the mythical championship.

Watch for the superb coaching of Lou Holtz and the blazing speed of Heisman hopeful Tim Brown to carry the Irish to some late-season heroics. **NOTRE DAME 38-10.**

Other games this week include: Indiana 34, Illinois 14; Oklahoma 42, Oklahoma State 17; Penn State 31, Maryland 10; Auburn 24, Florida State 21; Florida 27, Georgia 21; Iowa 31, Northwestern 0; USC 28, Stanford 7; Arkansas 34, Baylor 10; Michigan 38, Minnesota 14; Texas 31, Houston 13; Michigan State 40, Purdue 17; TCU 21, Texas Tech 14; UCLA 49, Oregon State 13; Clemson 27, North Carolina 21; Arizona 21, Washington 20; Kansas State 23, Kansas 9; Syracuse 45, Navy 6; Georgia Tech 24, Virginia 17; Arizona State 34, Oregon 14; Pittsburgh 35, Rutgers 13; and Hawaii 28, Colorado State 14.

NCC honors Evans for record tourney

By MARK HAGGAR
Staff Reporter

The third-ranked Lady Mavs added another North Central player of the week to their roster as they traveled to Minnesota to continue league play today.

UNO's junior All-American, Ruth Evans, earned the award for the first time this year and the second time of her career with 83 kills, 20 service aces and a .318 hitting percentage in the Lady Mavs Invitational last week.

Evans is the fourth member of the Lady Mavs to receive the award this season, and it marks the third consecutive week a UNO volleyball player has won the award. Lori Schutte won it last week and Darla Melcher the week previously. Lisa Lyons has also earned the honor.

Today, UNO plays at St. Cloud State, the No. 16 team in Division II, which owns a 22-16 record and is 2-1 in the NCC. Tomorrow, the Lady Mavs face unranked Mankato State, 21-14 and 1-2 in the NCC, for the first time this season.

Lori Schutte, who leads UNO in hitting percentage with .374, has totalled 333 kills this season and is moving up the all-time UNO kill list.

Schutte needs 30 kills to move into the fourth spot, now held by Kristi Nelson with 987 kills.

Other records to fall in the tourney: Freshman Brenda Baumann blasted 12 kills in 13 attempts against Minnesota-Duluth for a .923 single-game hitting percentage, supplanting Schutte's mark of .857.

Evans capped her All-NCC tournament with 11 block assists in the title loss to Central Missouri to top the previous record of nine held jointly by Lyons and Schutte.

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